

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.3 - Assistance for skills and career development

DEST Question No. E600_07

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

- a. Do all applicants for these funds now have to apply annually?
- b. If not then why is it different for Tranby?
- c. What meetings or discussions were held by DEST officers with these four institutions to explain the changes? Can you provide dates and locations?

Answer

- a. Transitional funding is guaranteed over four years and paid on a quarterly basis.
- b. Tranby College is treated no differently from Aboriginal Dance Theatre Redfern, Tauondi College or the Institute for Aboriginal Development.
- c. Officers from the Department of Education, Science and Training meet with the four independent Indigenous vocational and technical education (IIVTE) providers to discuss the conditions under which they may continue to receive funding. The changes were outlined to the four IIVTE providers as follows:
 - DEST wrote to the four institutions on 28 November 2005 to inform all four IIVTE providers about future funding arrangements under the JIFP.
 - DEST officers met with representatives from the Aboriginal Dance Theatre Redfern on 17 November 2005, 28 March 2006, 30 August 2006, and 16 November 2006. The JIFP and transitional funding arrangements were discussed at each of these meetings.
 - DEST officers met with representatives from Tranby College on 18 January 2006 and 19 October 2006 to explore funding options and student enrolment implications.
 - DEST officers met with the Director and departmental managers from the Institute for Aboriginal Development on 23 January 2006. Discussion involved advising the Institute for Aboriginal Development of changed arrangements following the establishment of the JIFP. DEST officers again met with the Institute for Aboriginal Development on 3 April 2006 to conduct a workshop detailing other DEST programmes which might offer alternative funding sources, and again on 8 September 2006 to discuss performance issues and future directions. DEST officers also met with the Chairman of the Institute for Aboriginal Development Board and Acting Director on 22 November 2006 to discuss transitional funding and future directions.
 - DEST officers met with representatives from Tauondi College on 20 February 2006 to discuss the JIFP and funding arrangements.